

TOWN GAS PROJECT:

Site Name: San Angelo Gas Company
Date of Site Visit: April 27, 1987
TWC Representative: Patricia Curl

Town gas plants were utilized throughout the United States in the late 1800's and early 1900's to manufacture gas for illumination, cooking and heating purposes. These plants produced an array of wastes that may have been disposed of on-site. As natural gas became available, the use of the facilities which produced manufactured gas decreased. The environmental concerns associated with these facilities include products/by-products that may not have been utilized and were left in place during closure, wastes that were deposited on-site, and the potential for leaching of these wastes into soils and groundwater.

The exact location of the San Angelo Gas Company was determined by researching state archives for old city directories to determine the address of the manufacturing plant and the approximate years of operation. The University of Texas Barker Collection archives contains historic Sanborn fire insurance maps which were used to determine the location of the site and identification of various landmarks which could be related to present day conditions. Due to the extensive changes in the city over the past eighty or a hundred years, it was advantageous to locate a current city map and attempt to relate the circa 1900 Sanborn maps to a current city map.

The San Angelo Gas Company site was located in this manner. A site visit was made on April 28, 1987 by Patricia Curl of the TWC Superfund Section, Austin.

The present owner of the property on which the old town gas site was located is AT & T. The site is covered by a parking lot and office building which cover most of the area of the old town gas site. This impedes further site investigations. Little uncovered ground is present within historic site boundaries. No attempt was made to contact the owners.

The TWC recommendation of "no action needed" does not necessarily mean that there is no environmental hazard associated with the property. This designation means that during the preliminary assessment we discovered no apparent hazards associated with the property. Due to the presence of a building covering the entire site, further investigation to test for subsurface contamination would be difficult to achieve and beyond the scope of this project.

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